

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

D-443
10044 58304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

615 Locust Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Dorchester

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ MUSEUM

___ COMMERCIAL

___ PARK

___ EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ RELIGIOUS

___ GOVERNMENT

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ MILITARY

___ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Margaret Wolff

Telephone #: 228-2121

STREET & NUMBER

615 Locust St.

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21613

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Dorchester Co. Courthouse

Liber #: APMS

Folio #: 478

STREET & NUMBER

206 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

D-443

CONDITION

—EXCELLENT

☒ GOOD

—FAIR

—DETERIORATED

—RUINS

—UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

—UNALTERED

☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

—MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Of frame construction, this two and one half story house has a gabled roof and center gable with an arched window. Opposite this gable is a dormer window on each side. The front facade is five bays long and is spanned by a one story porch supported by rectangular columns. The ballustrade has carved flat ballusters with pierced work. The paneled double door has flanking sidelights and a transom light above with metal tracery. Added to the east facade is a one story addition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although the appearance of this house from the exterior is typical of late 19th century architecture, some of the original paneling and hardware remains on the interior indicating that the house is much older. Additional research is necessary, however, to determine the age of the house and who it was built by. The 1877 Atlas map of Cambridge reveals that there were only a few dwellings on Locust St. in 1877. Located approximately where this house is, is shown a house owned by a Mrs. Spence.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The 1877 Atlases and other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland,
Bicentennial Edition, Peninsula Press, 1976.

Margaret Wolff

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catherine L. Moore

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Rte. 3, Box 32

TELEPHONE

228-5963

CITY OR TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

615 Locust Street
Cambridge, Maryland

W/R APM 5/478

This house is much older than its late nineteenth century vernacular appearance would indicate. It was on this lot in 1852 and may date from as early as 1797. In 1793, John Elder Gist bought a two acre tract for eighty pounds on the southeast side of Mill Street, extending on both sides of what later became Locust Street. The lot fronted 396 feet on Mill Street and extended 280 feet 6 inches toward High Street. In 1794, Gist bought another 1/4 acre to the southeast of the first lot. This second piece of land was northwest of the old prison lot on present day Locust Street. In 1797, Gist sold the two lots to Dr. Richard Goldsborough for five pounds, indicating that there were probably no buildings on the property at the time. In 1807 a deed for an adjoining lot refers to "Doctor Richard Goldsborough's Garden"¹, and indicated that it was located on the southeast side of Mill Street, approximately where 316 Mill Street now stands. In 1811, Dr. Goldsborough sold about one acre of his land southwest of Locust Street to later Governor Charles Goldsborough (see 200 High Street) for \$400.00. In 1817, following Dr. Goldsborough's death, the remainder of the property was sold to John Williams for \$1,500.00. The difference between the selling price of the lot sold in 1811 and the one sold in 1817, indicates that there was a house on the latter in 1817. In 1820, William bond Martin, attorney and later judge, acquired the property. The house remained in the possession of the Martin family until 1852, when Mrs. Sarah H. Norris of Baltimore bought the present house. On Mrs. Norris's death in 1862, the house passed to her daughter, Mrs. Mary Eleanor Spence, as a life estate. This is the "Mrs. Spence" listed on the 1877 atlas of Cambridge. She was the wife of Congressman Thomas A. Spence, who served in the House of Representatives from 1843 to 1845. Spence was also judge of the Worcester County Court and practiced law in Salisbury. From 1872 until his death in 1877, he was assistant attorney general for the Post Office Department in Washington. Mrs. Spence probably

did not live in the house. Following her husband's death, she returned to Baltimore. The house in Cambridge was sold in 1878 to Mrs. Jane Patterson Barton, wife of William H. Barton, Jr. On her death in 1883, her husband inherited the house. Barton was the first president of the National Bank of Cambridge, chartered in 1880. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy he served on blockade duty during the Civil War and saw service in East Asia until he retired to Cambridge in 1867. Barton remodeled the house and put in electricity and gas. On his death in 1909, the house and large lot were sold off to form the following lots: 600, 602, 604, 606, 608 and 610 Church Street; 312, 314 and 316 Mill Street and 617 and 613 Locust Street.

The interior of the house confirms the fact that the structure is much older than it would appear from the outside. From the evidence collected so far, the house could have been built as early as 1797 or as late as 1851. A more detailed investigation by an architectural historian is necessary in order to determine the age of the house more precisely.

Sources:

1 HD 24, folio 305, Land Records, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

Court Records.

Land Records.

Will Records.

Dorchester County Office Building, Cambridge, Maryland.

Assessment Records.

Baltimore City Courthouse, Baltimore, Maryland.

Court Records.

Will Records.

Interview, David and Margaret Estlow, 615 Locust Street, owners.

Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1961, Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1961, p. 1637.

6]5 Locust Street (continued)

Cambridge Democrat and News, April 28,]883.

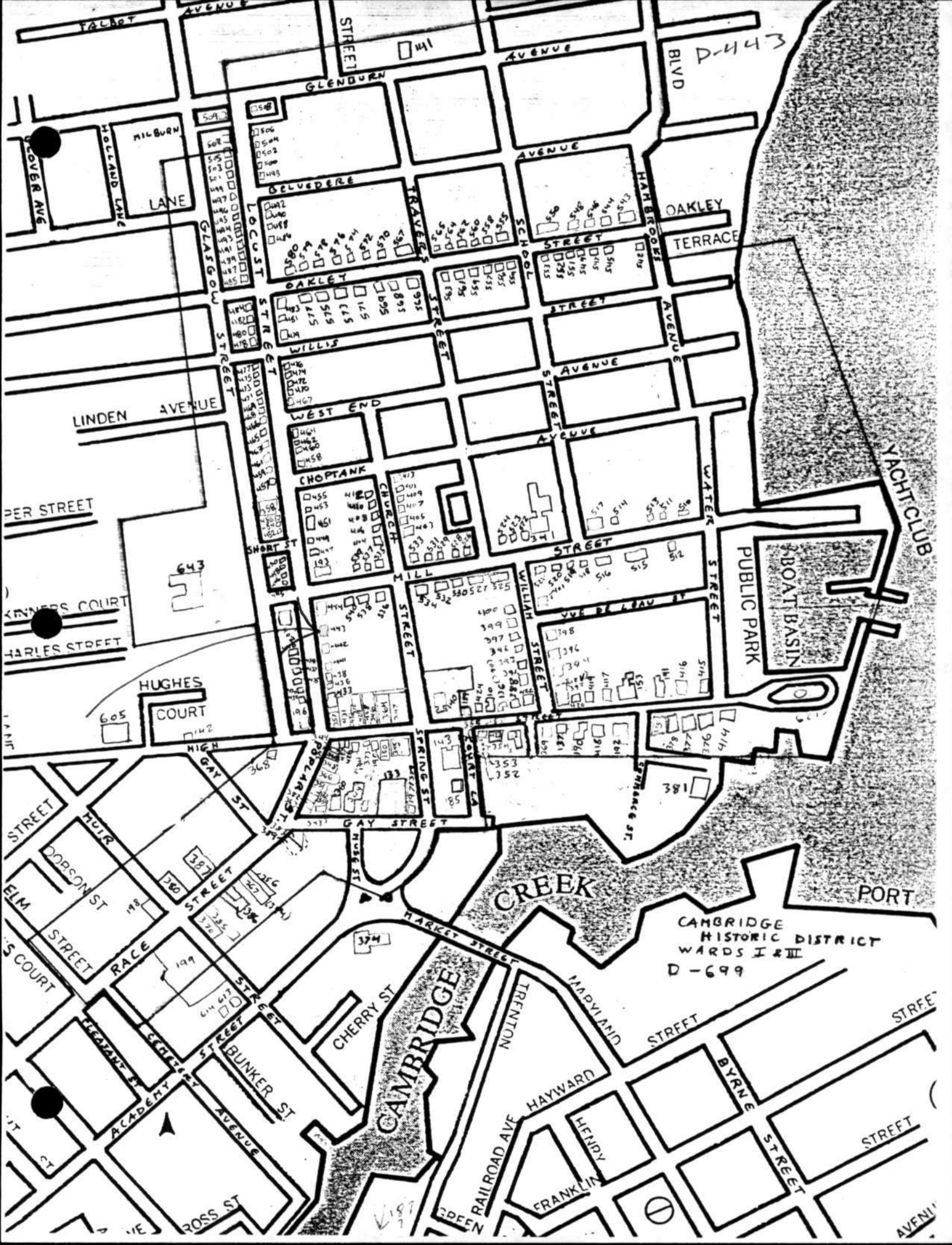
Lake, Griffing and Stevenson, An Illustrated Atlas of Talbot and Dorchester
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Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland,
New York and Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co.,]898, pp. 473-477.

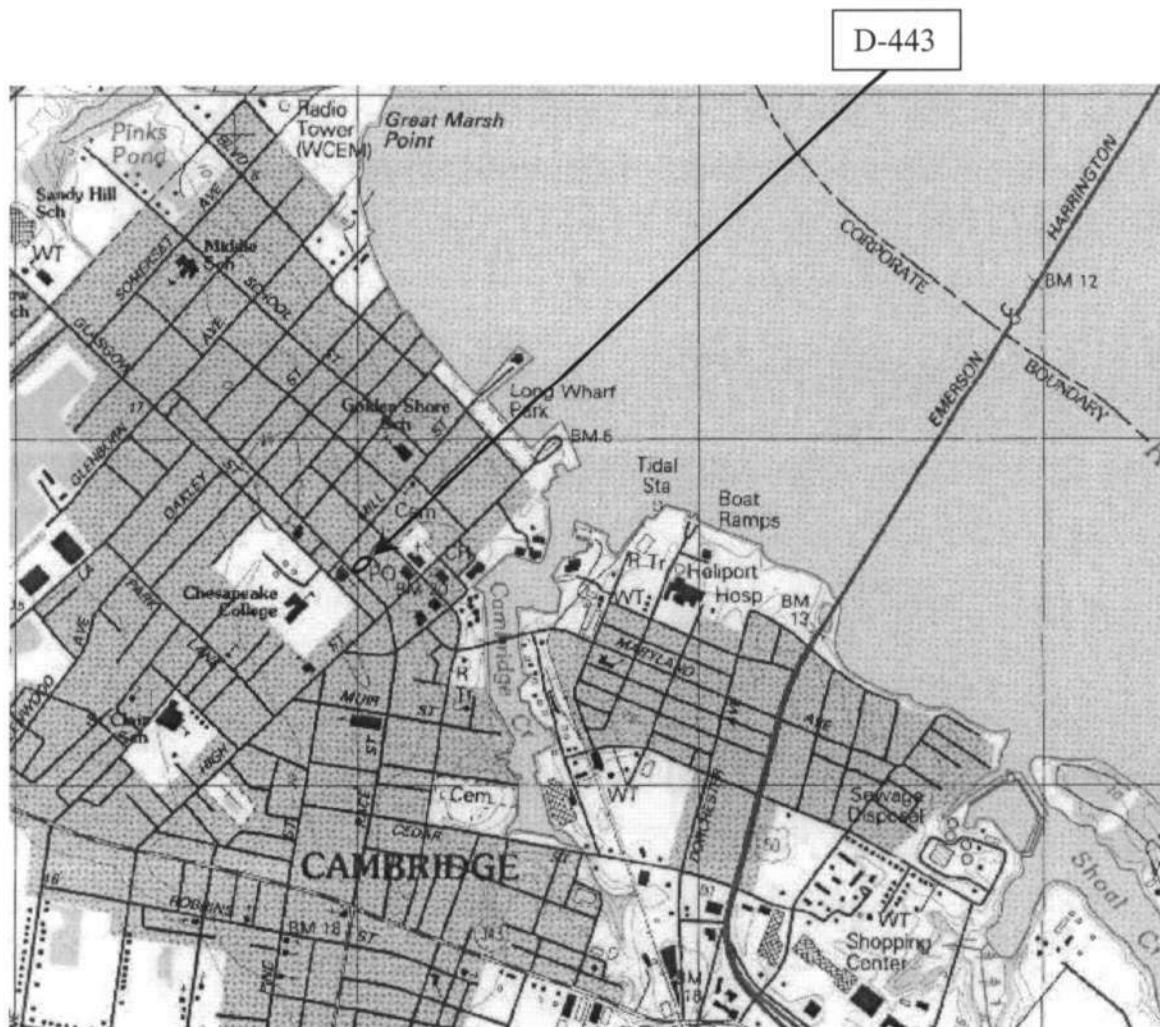
Research by:

Terrance P. Walbert

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D-443
615 Locust St.
Cambridge
Cambridge Quad.
Dorchester Co.





615 LOCUST ST., CAMBRIDGE, MD. (~~NORTH~~ FACADE) - C.L. MOORE, 1976
SOUTH

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